***The Phantom Toll Booth***

The Phantom Toll Booth is a book about Milo a boy who is not interested in the things around him and is always bored. One day when he comes back from school there is a package for him. Inside of the package was a toll booth and this is where the adventure begins.

Milo drives through the toll booth and is transported to the Kingdom of Wisdom. Milo doesn’t know what to do in this place so he starts driving in his car heading towards Dictionopolis the city of words ruled by King Azaz the Unabridged. On the way there Milo meets Tock a watchdog that goes tick. When they arrive in Dictionopolis Milo learns that words and letters are grown on trees. Milo and Tock get invited to a royal banquet held by King Azaz the Unabridged. In Dictionopolis things are taken very literally as Milo learns after having to eat his words. After the banquet Milo learns that the Kingdom is ruled by two brothers King Azaz and the Mathmagician who have been arguing about what is more important Words or Numbers. When they asked their sisters Rhyme and Reason what is more important they decided that they were both equally important. The brothers not pleased with this answer banished Rhyme and Reason to the castle in the air. Ever since then everything had gone wrong in the Kingdom of Wisdom. This was the last thing that the brothers ever agreed on and they started to have battles over which one was more important Words or Numbers.

This relates to social studies because it shows how wars can be started over the most pointless things imaginable. As it shows in the book it is possible for two very close people or countries to turn against each other and fight just because they believe that one thing is better than the other and they can’t prove this so they have a war and the winner can then say there point of view is right when both of them are correct. This has happened in many wars over religion and when the British tried to assimilate the Canadiens, the British believed that their culture and language was more important than the Canadiens so they tried to get rid of the unimportant culture of the Canadiens and have just one more important culture of the British. This is also usually the case when a country conquers another.

Milo and Tock decided that they would go on a journey to free Rhyme and Reason from the castle in the air so that the Kingdom will be back in order, but first they must visit to the city of numbers to convince the Mathmagician to let them try to free Rhyme and reason. After they visited the city of number they head to the mountains of ignorance while along the way they meet many friends like Alec who explained perspective to them and how important it is to have it. To rescue Rhyme and Reason they must travel through the mountains of ignorance and survive the many demons guarding their path. Will Milo and Tock make it to the castle in the sky and save Rhyme and Reason? Or will they be stopped by the treacherous demons? To find out you will have to read the Phantom Toll booth by Norton Juster.